

Applicants respectfully request that the examiner reconsider her position regarding this restriction requirement and examine the claims of Group I and II as one invention, for the reason set forth above. In addition, rejoinder may be required under the Ochiai guidelines upon a finding that the elected product is allowable.

While it is believed that the alleged separate inventions are related and should be examined as one invention, applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, claims 1-3 if the examiner maintains the present restriction requirement.

CONCLUSION

Applicants, of course, reserve the right to file divisional applications covering the subject matter of the non-elected claims.

Applicants respectfully request examination on the merits of this application. Should there be any questions concerning this application, Examiner Ford is invited to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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